

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 210

February Session, 2012

LCO No. 1266

01266_____ENV

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by: (ENV)

AN ACT ALLOWING MUNICIPALITIES COMPLETING A SURVEY OF UNLICENSED DOGS TO KEEP A LARGER PORTION OF DOG LICENSE FEES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 22-347 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
- 3 [Within] Not later than thirty days after receipt of the fees for dog
- 4 licenses and tags, each town clerk shall deduct one dollar for each dog
- 5 licensed, two dollars for each kennel license issued and fifty cents for
- 6 each replacement tag issued and pay the balance to the town treasurer
- 7 or other proper fiscal officer. Each town treasurer or fiscal officer, as
- 8 the case may be, shall keep a separate dog fund account of all fees
- 9 received from the town clerk, and all receipts from the municipal
- 10 animal control officer and expended by said officer under the
- 11 provisions of this chapter, and shall pay to the Commissioner of
- 12 Agriculture, on September first of each year, fifty per cent of all
- moneys received from the sale of licenses prior to July first, or [forty]
- 14 <u>twenty</u> per cent of all such moneys if the town has made a survey of
- unlicensed dogs in accordance with the provisions of section 22-349,

and include with such payment a statement of the number of licenses issued during such year. All moneys received from licenses sold after June thirtieth and all moneys received from the municipal animal control officer and all license fees returned to the town by the State Treasurer, at the request of the commissioner, under the provisions of section 22-348 shall be kept by the town treasurer or other fiscal officer in the separate dog fund account. The town treasurer or other fiscal officer shall, on the ensuing September first, send fifty per cent, or [forty] twenty per cent as the case may be, of all license fees in such account to the commissioner, including any penalty fees collected pursuant to section 22-338. All payments to the commissioner shall be accompanied by an account thereof in a form prescribed by the commissioner and a copy of such account shall be sent to the commissioner. Upon the failure of any town treasurer or other fiscal officer to pay any amount due pursuant to this section, or any portion thereof, [within] not later than forty-five days [from] after its due date, the commissioner shall add interest of one and one-fourth per cent per month or fraction thereof on the amount unpaid per month or fraction thereof from the due date of such payment to the date of payment and a penalty in the amount of ten per cent of the amount unpaid or fifty dollars, whichever is greater. All funds in the dog fund account, except such funds as are to be sent to the commissioner, shall be used only for the compensation of municipal animal control officers, license certificates, tags, the construction and maintenance of dog pounds, the detention and care of impounded dogs in accordance with section 22-336, municipal animal control officer's equipment, dog supplies and such veterinary fees as are provided for by law or regulations and shall not be used for any other purpose except upon written approval of the commissioner. No fees paid into the treasury of the town for tags or licenses for dogs shall be paid back to the persons from whom they were collected.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

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Statement of Purpose:

To allow municipalities completing a survey of unlicensed dogs to keep eighty per cent of dog license fees collected.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]